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Vol. V, No. 4. DESEMBER 1916. Prys 2d.

THE PYONEER

Mor muni meenz mor pouer tu kari on the kampain.

From the . .
Trezherer'z Book.

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"Ferst Reeder."—Simplifyd Speling for the Defektiv.—Ekonomi!—Korespondens.—Nœts and Neuz.—Pres Kutingz.—Editorial Nœt.

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THE PYONEER

OV SIMPLIFYD SPELING.

KONTENTS.

Fyv Yeerz. — Sum Reflekshonz on the Œld Speling. — The Aneual Meeting.—Pronunsiaishon Problemz.—Anuther Eksperiment with our "Ferst Reeder." — Simplifyd Speling for the Defektiv. — Ekonomi! —Korespondens.—Nœts and Neuz.—Pres Kutingz.—Editorial Nœt.

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OUTLINE SCHEME FOR NEW READERS

The same sound is always represented by the same letter or letters: eni, jepardi, greev, leep (*not* any, jeopardy, grieve, leap).

Letters not pronounced are not written, and a consonant is not doubled to indicate a short vowel: dout, lam, aktiv, leter, nee (*not* doubt, lamb, active, letter, knee).

Wherever the *z* sound (as distinguished from the *s*) is heard it is written: tyz, praiz (*not* ties, praise).

C (except in *ch*), *q*, and *x* are not used.

VOWEL SOUNDS.

a: hat, glad.
e: meni, plezher (*not* many, pleasure).
i: wimen, bizi (*not* women, busy).
o: kot, hot.
u: but, bruther (*not* brother).
oo: book, poot (*not* put).

***aa:** raather, haaf (*not* rather, half).
ai: grait, kair (*not* great, care).
ee: eech, reseev (*not* each, receive).
au: aul (*not* all, awl).
œ: lœ, pœst (*not* low, post).
oo: troo (*not* true).
eu: teun, euloji (*not* tune, eulogy).
y: ryt, fyr (*not* right, fire).
oi: oil.
ou: found.

* Only one **a** is used before **r: arm, kar,** &c.

In considering the scheme remember that **no new letters are introduced,** though in English we have only **23** letters for representing over **40** sounds.

THE PYONEER
OV SIMPLIFYD SPELING.

VOL. V, NO. 4. DESEMBER, 1916.

FYV YEERZ.

WITH this number ov THE PYONEER we konklood the fifth yeer ov the publikaishon ov that unpretenshus jernal. It seemz a fiting oporteuniti for thanking thœz hoo hav taiken praktikal interest in it, whotever form that interest mai hav taiken.

We wish tu thank thœz hoo hav kontribeuted artikelz or leterz or nœts, eeven tho limitaishonz ov spais hav not aulwaiz maid it posibel tu print theez kontribeushonz. It iz inevitabel that a good deel must be left tu the editor'z diskreshon, and he himself wood be the laast tu klaim infalibiliti. If he had ever felt inklynd tu doo so, the kritisizmz that hav been sent wood soon hav undeseevd him. Indeed, had thai not been mor than balanst by werdz ov enkurijment, he myt wel hav kontemplaited giving up hiz raather ardeuus taask.

But, aafter aul, kritisizm iz the solt (or "sault," if eu prefer it) ov lyf. It iz not kritisizm that we shood mynd, so much az indiferens; and we kan sertinli not komplain that THE PYONEER and the moovment it reprezents hav not been freeli kritisyzd.

Sumtymz fault iz found with the pronunsiaishon which our speling indikaits. Wun good person telz us it iz too kolœkwial, or eeven slipshod; "no edeukaited speeker ever pronounsez the werd in this wai" iz a fraiz we heer ofen enuf, and this iz sed ov pronunsiaishonz undoutedli euzd by the majoriti ov edeukaited peepel. Jenerali it iz the speling that misleedz theez kritiks; bekauz in the œld speling "language" endz in -age thai maintain that the korekt pronunsiaishon shood be the saim az in the noun "age," aultho the redukshon tu -ij in the unstrest silabel iz at leest 200 yeerz œld, and the pronunsiaishon with -aij never egzisted. It iz a piti that in the œld speling "porridge" (a vairiant ov "pottage") iz the œnli werd in which the troo pronunsiaishon iz indikaited.

Utherz, again, konsider our notaishon far too konservativ, and we konfes tu sum simpathi with theez. Az we hav pointed out

on mor than wun okaizhon, thair iz a grait deel ov unsertinti in the speech ov the edeukaited, eeven if we konfyn our atenshon tu England alœn. Thair iz much varyeti which haz no signifikans. That thair shood be too pronunsiaishonz ov "either" iz a draubak, not a gain, tu the langwij. We, houever, ar not an authoriti kaipabel ov desyding such materz—no man iz; no komishon tu deel with them haz yet been apointed; and in the meentym it iz probabli best tu adopt the konservativ atiteud. It iz not veri eezi tu doo this when eu ar akustomd tu ryting English in the much mor striktli fonetik wai ov the Internashonal Fonetik Asœsiaishon; and if aul our reederz had a good fonetik training we myt doo sum thingz which we think it injoodishus tu doo nou.

Our desizhon not tu euz dyakritiks or neu leterz, at eni rait for the prezent, haz aulso given displezher tu meni. We hav kept no rekord ov the number ov speling skeemz emploiing theez that hav been submited tu us, but the number iz veri grait. Nor iz this serpryzing, for the produkshon ov such skeemz iz the eeziest thing in the werld. Tu juj from sum ov the produkshonz sent in, eeven the haaf-wited fynd it an agreabel okeupaishon. We ar afraid that we hav arouzd the rezentment ov mor than wun skeemer by refeuzing tu print whot he no dout kwyt onestli beleevz tu be the best soleushon ov the problem ever propœzd. If we had printed aul the skeemz submited we shood hav had room for nuthing els in THE PYONEER and our reederz wood hav been bord or bewilderd raather than edifyd.

We hav thaut it best tu konsentrait atenshon on the kwestion whether a reezonabli fonetik speling kan be sekeurd without dyakritiks or neu leterz. If this kan be dun, it wil hav manifest advaantijez; whether it kan be dun kan œnli be desyded by eksperiment and diskushon. This perpos simplifyd speling haz servd veri wel, and eni konsideraishon ov the problemz ov speling reform by the Guvernment wil deryv much help from the werk we hav dun. Simplifyd speling in its prezent form iz infinitli simpler than the prezent speling and its adopshon wood leed tu a grait saiving ov tym and enerji; but we ar not satisfyd with it, bekauz we beleev that it iz kaipabel ov ferther improovment. In the end it mai be found posibel tu introdeus sum neu leterz in plais ov sertin dygraafs that we nou euz, and for this perpos we mai be aibel tu maik eus ov the alfabet ov the Internashonal Fonetik Asœsiaishon. That iz by far the mœst wydli euzd fonetik alfabet, and eni wun hoo devyzez a skeem ov English speling without maiking himself

thurœli familiar with it akts veri unwyzli. Yet eeven that alfabet iz not perfekt, and it iz doutfool whether eni internashonal alfabet kan be adopted for jeneral eus az a nashonal alfabet.

It iz sumtymz erjd that the eus ov dygraafs iz non-fonetik, and in a sens that iz troo. Tu euz *e* for the vouel sound ov "pen" and *ee* for that ov "sweet" iz non-fonetik, in that *ee* shood stand for the *e* sound uterd twys. Yet eeven the grait fonetishan Sweet euzd *a* for the vouel ov "done" and *aa* for the ferst vouel in "father," whair hiz *aa* stood for a long vouel, not for the kwyt diferent vouel ov "done" uterd twys. The esenshal thing iz konsistensi; if we aulwaiz euz *ee* for the vouel ov "sweet" we ar much beter of than if we spel it not œnli *ee*, but aulso *ea*, *e*, *e . . e*, *ea . . e*, *ei*, ets. If, az sum dezyr, we ar tu giv "kontinental valeuz" tu the leterz, we ar at wuns up against the problem hou this long vouel iz tu be reprezented. Nun ov the reprezentaishonz kurent in English wil doo. French and Italian doo not help us; German *ie* or *ih* wood hardli be akseptabel; Sweet's *ij* iz not satisfaktori; and the Internashonal Asœsiaishon'z method ov indikaiting length iz admitedli inkonveenient. Whot iz mor, whichever ov theez devysez we adopt, we depart far from the prezent speling; and thair iz much tu be sed for keeping az neer tu the prezent speling az we kan, partli tu maik the neu speling eezier for thœz hu hav grœn up with the œld, and partli tu maik it eezier for thœz hu hav been braut up on the neu tu reed books in the œld speling.

Aseuming that the prinsipel ov the dygraaf iz aksepted, we mai supœz that printerz wood euz singel typs for them, posibli runing the too leterz ov which thai konsist klœser tugether, az iz dun by the Sivil Servis Komishonerz in the form ov Simplifyd Speling ov which thai maik eus in the egzaminaishon for femail typists, and ov which a spesimen haz been printed in THE PYONEER. We hav eksperimented ourselvz by euzing the ligateur *œ* in reesent iseuz—a ligateur aulredi egzisting. Its eus haz been reseevd with aprooval by mœst ov thœz hoo hav eksprest an opinion; thai regard it az a neet simplifikaishon. Utherz objekt tu it az being a departeur from kurent praktis; thai sai, kwyt rytli, that aultho *œ* iz komon enuf in aul founts, it iz not euzd with the valeu that we asyn tu it in the prezent speling (*e.g.* in "œsophagus, œcology").

Looking bak on the laast fyv yeerz ov our aktiviti, we feel that much haz been acheevd. Speling reform haz been braut tu the

nœtis ov thouzandz ov edeukaited men and wimen by meenz ov our pamflets, by lekteurz, and by THE PYONEER. Az regardz the laast, we beg the induljens ov our reederz for its shortkumingz; we thank them for thair help, whether it took the negativ form ov kritisyzing whair we apeerd tu hav gon rong, or the pozitiv form ov kontribeushonz, sujestionz, or enkurijment.

SUM REFLEKSHONZ ON THE ŒLD SPELING.

By HENRY DRUMMOND.

TOMMY spelz it *r-u-f*. Sum peepel spel it *r-o-u-g-h*. Hoo iz ryt? And why?

Why hav neumeralz and meuzikal nœts fikst valeuz, and leterz meni unsertin signifikaishonz?

If a signalman werkt upon the prinsipel ov English speling, euzing synz kaipabel ov meni interpretaishonz, hoo wood travel by rail?

Why shood a chyld be bamboozeld everi dai when traveling tu the richest literateur in the werld? Kan not the orthografik signalz be kleer and sertin and not befogd?

Why shood everi uther werd kontradikt its naibor?

If speling iz untroothfool, wœn't an iregeular orthografi foster folshood?

We enthrœn the speling book, and enslaiv the chyld.

Orthodoks speling iz a stryf against naiteur.

The paath tu nolej iz nyther smooth nor short; why maik it ruf and long by laules speling?

Lojik, ekonomi, and prœgres suport rashonal speling; prejoodis and fashon a sensles orthografi.

If nolej begets wizdom, iz it displaid by retaining the disabilitiz ov the paast, tu the impoverishment ov the yung?

THE thing that cheefli rekwyrz œverhauling iz our reched orthografik sistem, which, from the ferst entrans ov a chyld in skool, puzelz and bewilderz its reezon, outraijez its komon sens, undeuli taksez its memori, diskurijez its endevor, waists its mœst preshus tym, impeedz its prœgres in uther atainments, and verteuali cheets it ov aul edeukaishon in eni degree werthi ov the naim.—GEORGE WITHERS.

THE ANEUAL MEETING.

WITH this number we send out the prœgram ov our Aneual Meeting, which again taiks plais in konekshon with the grait Janeuari Konferens held at the Euniversiti ov London, South Kensington. It wil be seen that we hav an ekselent list ov speekerz, and we hœp that thair wil be az good an atendans az in preevius yeerz.

Never haz thair been so wydspred a demaand for ekonomi and efishensi in edeukaishon az nou; and we hoo beleev that no uther projekt ov reform iz mor important and presing than that ov the speling must relaks no efort in erjing the Guvernment tu taik up this werk.

It iz nou sum yeerz sins the Impeerial Edeukaishon Konferens paast this rezoleushon:

> *That this Konferens iz ov opinion that the simplifikaishon ov English speling iz a mater ov erjent importans in aul parts ov the Empyr, kauling for such praktikal steps in everi kuntri az mai apeer mœst kondeusiv tu the ultimait end in veu—the kreaishon, in konekshon with the subjekt, ov an enlytend publik opinion, and the direkshon ov it tu the maintenans, in its peuriti and simplisiti amung aul English-speeking peepel, ov the komon English tung.*

Whot praktikal steps haz the Guvernment taiken?

If the kwestion ov speling reform woz ov erjent importans befor the Wor, it iz ov tenfœld importans nou. We doo not aask the Guvernment tu sankshon the adopshon ov Simplifyd Speling in its prezent form, tho eeven this, with its admited imperfekshonz, wood leed tu an enormus saiving and vaastli graiter efishensi. We doo pleed for an egzaustiv and simpathetik inkwyri intu the hœl kwestion ov speling reform, and, tu emfasyz our determinaishon, we must hav an impresiv meeting on Janeuari 3, at haaf-paast too, in the West Galeri ov the Euniversiti ov London.

Remember the tym and plais, and, if eu ar in toun, doo not fail tu be thair.

THAIR wood not œnli be a grait saiving, but a simplifyd sistem ov speling wood aford a much beter training ov the mynd, bekauz it wood be traind in habits ov troothfoolnes insted ov folsiti, and tym wood be given for uther studiz which ar nou neglekted. The ydea that the prezent speling iz a grand historikal sistem ov speling iz a falasi. Insted ov being historikal it iz a jumbel.—DR. J. H. GLADSTONE.

PRONUNSIAISHON PROBLEMZ.

SER J. FORBES ROBERTSON iz reported tu hav sed reesentli that amung edeukaited peepel "agen" woz regarded az the œnli korekt pronunsiaishon ov O.S. "again."

This woz probabli troo a hundred yeerz agœ; John Walker, in hiz dikshonari (1791), givz œnli "agen" and "agenst." Ov reesent dikshonariz sum alou bœth; sum stait that "again" iz mor komon; utherz œnli giv "again." The fakt iz that orijinali the sekond silabel ov "again" and "against" woz long. It bekaim short in "against" in the siksteenth senteuri; laiter, this reakted on "again," leeding tu the pronunsiaishon "agen." Then, in the nynteenth senteuri, the speling led tu "again" and "against," az it haz led tu "edeukaishon" and "œdius" in plais ov "ejukaishon" and "œjus," which eust tu be the "œnli korekt pronunsiaishonz" ov theez werdz.

And whot iz the praktis ov the edeukaited tudai?

Sum sai "agen" œnli.

Sum sai "again" œnli.

Sum sai "agen" or "again" without eni aparent rool; whyl utherz seem tu prefer "again" befor a pauz.

Pœets rekognyz bœth pronunsiaishonz; the saim ryterz nou let "again" rym with "men, then," and nou with "plain, rain."

Elokeushonists wil euz bœth if thai ar wyz; at eni rait, thai depryv themselvz ov a meenz ov being ekspresiv if thai rejekt the long draun "again."

And the moral ov it aul iz that "again" iz everi bit az "korekt" az "agen," in spyt ov Ser J. Forbes Robertson.

* * * * *

Mr. Cairns James, Profesor ov Elokeushon at several London kolejez, in a reesent leter tu the pres, referz tu the pronunsiaishon ov *wh* in "which, what, who," ets. He sez (and he reali dezervz tu be kwœted in fool):

"In every instance the pronunciation given [in dikshonariz ov repeut] is 'hwich, hwat, hwo.' That is, the aspirate forms the first part of the articulatory process; the *w* (formed by the pursed-up lips) is in succession to the aspirate.

"Your leaderette suggests that this is derived from an Irish form of the English speech. May I point out that this is not so? The Irish *w* is preceded by *ph*, as in 'phwat, phwich.'

"Rudyard Kipling, who is admittedly most careful in his reproduction of phonetics in the spelling of his dialects, uses this form in giving the Irish pronunciation of English."

Nou this sort ov thing iz reali inekskeuzabel in wun hoo pretendz tu teech English elokeushon. Wuns mor, whot ar the fakts?

In the ferst plais, we mai brush asyd the ridikeulus staitment that aul

dikshonariz ov repeut maik "what" rym with "fat," and rekwyr the sounding ov *w* in "who."

In Œld English the speling had *hw; wh* daits from the therteenth senteuri. Too tendensiz hav been at werk: wun iz tu drop the *h*, the uther tu drop it and maik the *w* voisles.

The droping ov the inishal sound from a kombinaishon ov too konsonants iz a wel nœn feeteur in English. The *h* that eust tu preseed *l* in "lord, lady" haz disapeerd in presysli the saim wai; so haz the *w* in "write" and the *k* in "knee." It iz a perfektli nateural simplifikaishon, which we aulso fynd at the end ov werdz, az in "lamb, solemn." The chainj from *hw* tu *w* apeerz tu hav taiken plais at the end ov the seventeenth senteuri in suthern English, and tu be found nouadaiz in much the saim formz ov English speech in which inishal *h* iz dropt befor a vouel; but it iz regarded in a veri diferent lyt. It iz not konsiderd a syn ov defektiv edeukaishon, eni mor than the droping ov *h* in such kaisez az "forehead, shepherd, an historical novel."

The pronunsiaishon ov *wh* az voisles *w* iz evidentli whot iz ment by the notaishon *phw*, which iz enithing but a kairfool "reproduction of phonetics" (whotever that mai meen). Why *ph*, and not *f*? But eeven *fw* iz œnli a maikshift. Standerd English haz no voisles *w*, just az it haz no voisles *l*. The later sound okerz in Welsh, whair it iz riten *ll;* and this haz been, eekwali faultili, renderd by *fl* in "flummery, Floyd, Fluellen."

Whot iz our prezent praktis? The *Oxford Concise Dictionary* sez:

"The *h* is silent in ordinary modern usage, but the correct sound, = *hw*, is retained by the Scotch, Irish, Welsh, and northern English [this iz troo œnli ov the ekstreem north], and by purists in pronunciation, as well as for the nonce in unfamiliar words, or such as might be confused with commoner words having no *h* (whet, whey)."

This staitment rekwyrz sum ferther modifikaishon; meni hoo pronouns *hw* doo so œnli when it iz in a strongli strest silabel; thus thai sai "hwot," but "wotever" and "hwy" when it iz the interogativ pronoun, but "wy" when it iz the interjekshon.

The œnli argeument in faivor ov *hw* that haz eni wait iz that which emfasyzez the dezyrabiliti ov euniformiti in edeukaited English speech.

The uther argeuments sumtymz braut forwerd ar not konvinsing. The apeel tu tradishon myt be erjd with eekwal fors in suport ov sounding the *w* ov "write" or the *k* ov "knee." It iz imposibel tu maintain that thair iz eni intrinsik beuti in the kombinaishon ov the soundz *hw:* that, again, myt be erjd in faivor ov *wr* or *kn*. It iz feutyl tu poot forwerd the homonim argeument; thair iz no mor need tu diferenshiait "which" and "witch," "wail" and "whale," in the pronunsiaishon than thair iz in the kais ov "write" and "rite," "knight" and "night." The meening ov theez werdz iz kleer from the kontekst.

Tu thœz hoo prefer *hw* bekauz it bringz them intu lyn with the majoriti ov edeukaited speekerz we hav no aanser; but we kan aulso

apreeshiait the atiteud ov thœz hoo, for the prezent, stik tu *w*. In simplifyd speling we hav aulwaiz kept the *wh*, and if it iz retaind in the rashonal speling ov the feuteur this wil undoutedli leed tu its euniversal adopshon.

ANUTHER EKSPERIMENT WITH OUR "FERST REEDER."

THE Komiti ov the S.S.S. haz just reseevd a short preliminari report on an eksperiment that iz being maid in a larj toun skool in Scotland. The eksperiment began at the end ov August—the begining ov the skool seshon. The ferst lesonz wer oral, but aafter a feu daiz the blakbord woz braut intu eus, and speshal waul sheets wer prepaird. The method folœd woz that ov "Egzaampelz ov Silabel Bilding" (paijez 8 tu 11 ov *A Ferst Reeder in Simplifyd Speling*).

About the begining ov November, mœst ov the leterz being then nœn, books wer given out. Our korespondent hapend tu vizit the skool on the dai on which theez wer distribeuted, and woz graitli struk by the enjoiabel serpryz with which the peupilz—fifti-siks in number—found themselvz aibel tu run doun the kolumz on paij 8.

Anuther vizit woz maid a fortnyt laiter, when the klaas teecher printed wun ov the nerseri rymz—wun not preeviusli red—on the blakbord. The klaas translaited the simbolz intu soundz and kombynd the soundz intu werdz in a maner that shœd the valeu ov the lojical training the konsistent speling had maid posibel. The werk woz dun a litel slœli, but thair woz no gesing and thair woz no blundering. Blundering, in fakt, did not seem tu be posibel, so shoor woz the step with which eech peupil moovd from leter tu leter and from sound tu sound in the prœses ov sinthesis. The Hed Mistres ov the Infants' Department, a laidi ov long ekspeeriens, iz wel satisfyd with the rezults so far az the eksperiment haz gon.

The Inspektor for the distrikt haz given hiz kordial aprooval. The lœkal reprezentativ ov the S.S.S., and sum uther peepel not aultugether unnœu in the edeukaishonal werld, ar taiking a keen interest in an eksperiment that promisez tu be ov desysiv importans.

* * * * *

We stil hav kopiz ov the akount ov the ferst eksperiment maid with our *Reeder*, and shal be glad tu send wun tu eni that aply. Ser James Crichton-Browne, wun ov our Vys-Prezidents, ryting tu us the uther dai, sed:

> The eksperiment eu menshon iz veri interesting and shœz hou much mor rapidli reeding iz akwyrd when run on the lynz ov leest rezistans —y and eer in harmœnius kœoperaishon, and no longer in antagonizm.
>
> Unnesesari serebral fateeg iz undoutedli kauzd by orthografik difikultiz.

SIMPLIFYD SPELING FOR THE DEFEKTIV.

HAV eu ever been tu a skool for the def or for the blynd? Doo eu realyz the difikultiz ov teeching them? Aul onor tu the ernest, paishent teecherz hoo undertaik this werk.

Doo eu nœ hou unnesesarili hard thair werk iz maid by our irashonal speling? Aask them; *thai* nœ.

We hav just been sent a kopi ov this rezoleushon paast at the laast meeting ov the Edeukaishon Komiti ov the "National Association of Teachers of the Deaf":—

> *That the Committee is of opinion that some form of simplified spelling would facilitate the work in our schools, and that generally they approve the system of the Simplified Spelling Society.*

* * * *

We hav reseevd a valeuabel sujestion from Mr. James Allan, Academy House, Kilsyth, Glasgow, regarding the eus ov our *Reeder* for mentali defishent children. Shoorli eni prœses that simplifyz the biznes ov lerning tu reed shood be eutilyzd for thair benefit. We ar ryting rekomending our *Reeder* tu the nœtis ov the Sentral Asœsiaishon for the Kair ov the Mentali Defectiv, and we hœp that eni teecher hoo haz such children under hiz kair, and wood lyk tu try the method, wil poot himself intu komeunikaishon with us.

Mr. ALLAN ryts:

> I think it no les than my deuti tu rekord my sens ov the importans ov the objekts eu werk for. The habit ov leting thingz drift haz perhaps reseevd a shok in theez daiz, and our naishon mai yet awaik tu the fakt that, whyl the simplisiti ov the gramatikal strukteur ov our langwij iz an aset tu us in our endevor tu hœld our plais in the werld, that advaantij iz larjli diskounted by the irashonaliti ov our mœd ov reprezenting it in ryting. Kan it be denyd that the prevalens ov "pidgin" English in meni parts ov the glœb iz a grait advaantij tu English-speeking traiderz? We shood inkrees this advaantij if we kood maik the transizhon eezier than at prezent from speeking tu ryting and reeding English, by which alœn ar thai maid free ov our kulteur. The diferens that speling maiks iz ilustraited in anuther wai by the too indijenus langwijez—Gaelic and Welsh. The former, with a difikult but not inkonsistent speling, iz riten œnli by a frakshon ov thœz hoo speek it, and iz in dainjer ov ekstinkshon; whairaz Welsh, with a lojikal speling, iz veri much euzd az a meenz ov riten komeunikaishon.
>
> Profeshonali, I am interested in the klaas ov children kauld

mentali defishent. Theez kan be reskeud from thair helplesnes if thai kan taik part in regeular intelijent werk ov sum kynd. Reeding iz tu them such werk, but the interest that shood reword and inspyr tu kontineu duz not aryz within them, bekauz the werk iz too hard with werdz ov mor than thre leterz in our prezent wai ov speling, whairaz for the arouzing and maintenans ov interest, the dikshon haz tu be at leest az advaanst az that which thai themselvz euz orali.

Eu hav too kyndz ov korespondents giving eu the benefit ov thair opinionz: the ferst, hoo proseed by sistem, and evolv whot wood be the eeziest styl tu teech; and the sekond, hoo analyz the taists and prejoodisez ov the averij reeder ov English (O.S.), and evolv whot wood be mœst "reedabel at syt." When THE PYONEER ferst kaim out, it belongd raather tu the former mœd, but everi vœt haz ejd it mor tordz the uther. Az a teecher, I poot sistem befor imeediait ekspeediens, and in this konekshon I hartili komend Mr. Fawcett's propœzalz; but eniwun hoo haz herd a poor litel ernest mentali defektiv pronouns "fight" "fidget" wil agree that enithing regeular wil doo, and that will doo best that kan be aksepted ferst, lest nuthing be dun at aul.

EKONOMI!

By HENRY DRUMMOND.

EKONOMI! Whot milionz ov werdz hav been riten, typt, printed, and spœken in thy naim! Sum hav been heeded; alas! meni hav akomplisht nuthing. The preeching ov ekonomi must gœ on.

Iz it posibel tu apeel tu Simplifyd Spelerz tu akt upon the preesept ov Ekonomi? Sum ov them hav advokaited Speling Reform for meni yeerz, and dun much tu ferther its advaansment; yet thai seldom, if ever, ryt in eni abreeviaited speling. The long, laborius, and ilojikal orthografi iz undeuli onord, eeven tu the *que* in "picturesque." If "meuzik" kan paas muster without the kumbrus "tail," why shood Speling Reformerz perzist in ryting "pictures*que*"? It wil be kur*taild*, and thai myt az wel hav a hand in the sheering of ov its needles apendij. This egzaampel on thair part wil kari mor wait than reemz ov elokwent argeuments. "By thair froots ye shal nœ them." The "ferst froots" ov a Speling Reformer iz the bringing ov hiz orthografik akts intu harmoni with hiz konvikshonz. It iz paitent that sum wun must onor, must maik a begining in, reformd

speling; and if a Speling Reformer duz not reform hiz œn speling, hou kan he ekspekt a person ignorant ov the mater tu set him an egzaampel?

We hav been wornd ov the konsekwensez if the blynd leed the blynd. The reformaishon ov English orthografi needz the leêdership ov thœz hoo doo maik an efort tu reform thair œn speling, az wel az ryt and erj utherz tu doo so.

No wun haz a ryt tu diktait the pais a reformer shood travel, aultho it mai not be proodent tu gœ too faast; for no chainj in the habits ov a sivilyzd komeuniti haz ever been braut about aul at wuns. The English karakter luvz a kompromyz. It woz sed, on the deth ov a sertin publik man, that he wood not advokait or aksept haaf mezherz. Az a praktikal politishan he woz a faileur. Orthografik inovatorz need tu lern the leson enjoind by Prof. Brander Matthews: "Gœ slœli, *but gœ*." Sum hav not atemted tu "gœ"—œnli tu tauk and dreem. Bekauz English speling needz drastik amendment, it duz not folœ that the chainjez wil kum tu paas, in thair kompleeshon, in a dai. Speling Reform wil be no eksepshon. Kompleet viktori wil be the werk ov meni dekaidz, if not jeneraishonz. The need iz tu maik a begining, and the best begining iz for Speling Reformerz tu begin tu begin, and then tu gœ az much beyond the begining az thai kair tu gœ.

The nekst ekonomikal staij iz tu seek tu introdeus a beter sistem ov speling intu the elementari skoolz. The waist ov tym, enerji, muni, paiper, ink, temper, ysyt iz inkomprehensibel. The prezent iz a fiting okaizhon tu enfors upon edeukaizhonal authoritiz the need for a mor sensibel sistem ov speling.

DID not a whimsikal, antikwaited orthografi stand in the wai, the euniversaliti ov the English langwij wood be stil mor evident; and we uther Europeans mai esteem ourselvz forteunait that the English naishon haz not yet maid the diskuveri.—GRIMM.

IT iz sertinli barbarus tu maik "ough" taik so meni formz ov pronunsiaishon az it nou duz . . . I shood not kair tu be an obstruktiv in the wai ov eni wel organyzd skolarli atemt tu reform our English—and American—langwij.—OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES.

I ENTYRLI aproov ov fonetik reform . . . The hœl sistem ov English speling iz so fool ov absœrditiz and kontradikshonz that paij after paij myt be okeupyd in thair eneumeraishon . . . The meer fakt that thair egzists such a thing az a pronounsing dikshonari kariz with it a kompleet kondemnaishon ov our sistem ov riten langwij.—HERBERT SPENCER.

THE English sistem ov speling (I protest against it being kauld orthografi) iz a labirinth, a kaios, an absœrditi, a disgrais tu our aij and naishon. It formz the prinsipal difikulti ov our langwij, and kauzez an enormus unnesesari ekspenditeur ov valeuabel tym, and stil mor valeuabel temper.—Ser C. E. TREVELYAN.

KORESPONDENS.

OUR valeud frend and aktiv suporter, Mr. JOHN HOGARTH, ov Johannesburg, haz sent us a veri interesting leter, in which he submits anuther atemt at solving the *oo* problem. He sujests, not egzaktli a neu leter, but a vairiaishon ov *u*—viz. **ü**, that iz, *u* with the left syd kervd, not strait. He wood euz this for short *oo* (az in O.S. "put, pull, full"), and ryt *oo* for the long sound œnli, the ordinari *u* being euzd for the sound in O.S. "but, shut." This laast sound iz komparativli reesent in our langwij; the *u* in O.S. "but, shut" eust tu be pronounst with the short *oo* sound, and the propœzal tu euz a modifikaishon ov *u* for it wood serv tu indikait the etimolojikal konekshon.

Unforteunaitli, the diferens in form iz veri slyt, and tu suply the modifyd leter in aul founts wood be kwyt az trubelsum az having a neu leter. Morœver, in sum formz ov English thair iz konstant konfeuzhon between theez too soundz, which maiks it dezyrabel tu hav kwyt distinkt synz for them.

Mr. W. GUNDRY, ov the De Wissa Skool, Assiut, haz riten on the saim subjekt. He points out veri forsibli the objekshonz tu euzing *oo* for the long vouel az wel az the short vouel. He maiks vairius sujestionz: *v* for the short vouel, or a dygraaf (*uo*, or *ue*, or *uu*), or a ligateur (runing too o'z tugether), or a neu syn aultugether.

Anuther sujestion that haz been repeetedli maid iz tu euz *w* for short *oo*, in akordans with Welsh praktis, *e.g.* "pwl" (O.S. "pull"), "fwt" (O.S. "foot"), "wwd" (O.S. "wood, would"); and aulso it haz been sujested that we myt euz the Greek *ω*, regarding it az a ligateur ov *oo*.

Nun ov theez sujestionz iz kwyt hapi; and we invyt our reederz tu konsider the kwestion stil ferther.

Just az we gœ tu pres a leter from "A Printer'z Reeder" reechez us, from which we kwœt: "For the short sound I sujest *ui*, and klaim for it fœr advaantijez: (1) It iz aulredi familiar tu Northern fœk in 'guid, nuik, buik,' ets., and I beleev its sound in thœz werdz iz veri similar tu Suthern 'good, nook, book.' (2) It wil not be konfeuzd with *ui* in konvenshonal speling, az a feu instansez wil proov: 'luik, forsuik, kruik, stuid, fuit, puit, tuik.' (3) It wil not klash with S.S. spelingz: 'rooin, dooing, heuing, veuing' ar sufishentli distinktiv. (4) We shuid then be aibel tu diferenshiait between 'wuid' (*wood, would*) and 'wood' (*wooed*), 'kuid' (*could*) and 'kood' (*cooed*), 'puil' (*pull*) and 'pool' (*pool*), 'fuil' (*full*) and 'fool' (*fool*)."

Mr. CHAS. S. BURT, ov Ann Arbor, Mich., points out that if we euz the ligateur *œ* for *oe*, it wood be reezonabel tu euz *æ* insted ov *ai*.

NŒTS AND NEUZ.

The membership ov the Sosyeti nou numberz 2722.

A.E.I.O.U.

In Austria the vouelz ar taiken tu reprezent the saiing, "Austriae est imperare orbi universo" (Austria iz tu be rooler ov the hœl werld), which iz sed tu hav been introdeust in the fifteenth senteuri, when the week and unforteunait Frederick III woz Emperor. It haz been sujested that aafter the Wor the rœ ov vouelz wil be simplifyd tu I.O.U.

Whot Tommy red in hiz Speling-book.

Tommy sau this in hiz speling-book :

"I tell you earnestly, you must get into the habit of looking intensely at words, assuring yourself of their meaning, syllable by syllable—nay, letter by letter."—JOHN RUSKIN.

"Wel, wel," sed Tommy.

"Pique : pee-y, py ; keu-eu-ee, kwee ; pykwee.

"Catalogue : kai-ai-tee, kait ; ai ; el-œ, lœ ; jee-eu-ee, jwee ; kaitailœjwee."

(*Sent in by Mr. C. S. Burt.*)

Anuther Kynd ov English.

A feu munths agœ a bazar keeper in Alexandria paisted outsyd hiz shop in veri larj typ the folœing startling staitment :—

"*Englise and Frenchi spoken here ; also Australian palaver very well understood.*"

Unkonshus Simplifikaishon.

"An Uncle" ryts tu us : "I kopi belœ a leter from a chyld ov seven which seemz tu giv enkurijment tu eur kauz." This iz whot our unnœn suporter, Barbara, rœt :

"*Dia Grani I hop ioo ar having a good tim in the kunchre I chos this pikcha ov Old Mutha Hubad and ha dog* [this referz tu a pikteur on the nœt-paiper] *thar wa utha pikchas onli I that this wos the nisist wun in the boks In the arftanoon I go into the gadan and pla with tois eksept wen it is raning Luv from Barbara*

A Kapital Lekteur.

Mr. R. W. Mason, ov the Kounti Sekondari Skool, Leiston, Suffolk, on hiz œn inishiativ gaiv an ekselent adres on Speling Reform tu a number ov teecherz and uther frendz on November 29. A good report apeerd in the lœkal pres, from which it iz kleer that he staited the kais for reform kleerli and konvinsingli. Everi kopi ov the *Ferst Reeder* and the *Appeal to Common Sense* that had been sent woz sœld, and a number ov thœz prezent synd the Petishon. We shood be veri hapi if meni uther memberz wood folœ Mr. Mason'z egzaampel ; if thai doo, and let us nœ, we shal aulwaiz be hapi tu send them az much literateur az thai mai dezyr.

Training Kolej Audiensez.

A number ov lekteurz hav been deliverd at training kolejez deuring the Christmas term, with euniformli satisfaktori rezults. Heer iz a list: Edge Hill Trg. Kol., Liverpool ; Sunderland Trg. Kol. ; Stockwell Trg. Kol. ; Southlands Trg. Kol. ; Cambridge Trg. Kol. ; Manchester Trg. Kol. ; Dudley Trg. Kol. ; Hereford Trg. Kol. ; Maria Grey Trg. Kol. ; Saffron Walden Trg. Kol. Thair iz sumthing partikeularli delytfool about theez audiensez : thai ar so responsiv, so kwik tu taik up a point, so manifestli and joiusli releevd when thai fynd that a subjekt which seemz forbiding iz reali briming with interest. The werk ov inflooensing the teecherz ov tumorœ iz ov seupreem importans.

On Reeding aloud.

Ser Oliver Lodge, speeking at the Leamington Gerlz' Hy Skool pryz distribeushon, laid speshal emfasis on the eusfoolnes ov reeding aloud. He pleeded for dramatik reeding, and erjd the reeding ov plaiz, not œnli Shakespeare'z, but domestik plaiz—enithing, in order tu get sum ov the training ov aktorz. "If eu kan not reed aloud properli," he sed, "eu kan not reed tu eurselvz properli." He uterd a trooth that iz not wydli nœn and understood. When we reed tu ourselvz a pœem, we chainj the leterz ov print intu soundz ; the soundz ar not spœken, but we heer them aul the saim. If we speek badli, then the soundz

sujested ar bad, and we ar unaibel tu apreeshiait beutifool literateur az we shood. The intelijent and ekspresiv reeding aloud, ov prœz az wel az ov pœetri, servz az an ekselent test ov literari apreeshiaishon.

A Werd that lookt ryt.

An aijent had okaizhon tu order sum sanitari pyps and "junkshons." A frendli klark egzamind the order and nœtist that "junctions" had been riten "junkshons," so droo atenshon tu it, remarking that woz not the wai tu spel "junctions." Not tu be foild, the fonetik speler inkwyrd hou the uther spelt "junctions." The "nyt ov the pen" redili komplyd by ryting "j-u-n-c-t-i-o-n-s." The aijent skand the arai ov leterz, ponderd œver them for a whyl with a puzeld brain, and at laast eksklaimd: "Wel, my speling ov 'junctions' iz mor lyk 'junkshonz' than eurz."

Whot the Teecherz think.

"It iz wel that teecherz ar begining tu rezent the drujeri ov teeching 'sili spelingz.'

"'Nou, boiz, *seize* iz not spelt *seez*, or *seiz*, or *ceeze*, but *seize*.

"'And *shure* iz spelt *sure*, bekauz it iz pronounst *shoor*,' and so on, with skorz ov similar trivialitiz.

"Such werk iz degraiding tu the werkman."

(Leter tu the "Schoolmaster," from L. H. Leadley.)

Dr. Johnson'z Speling.

Dr. Johnson, hoo iz ultimaitli responsibel for the speling nou konsiderd korekt, did not himself trubel much tu spel "korektli." In hiz leterz he spelz "persuance, council [for "counsel"], happyest, fryday, solicite, defense, pamflets, do's—dos [for "does"], inventter, barels, distresful, Plimouth, imbicility, enervaiting, devide." He ryts hiz byografer'z naim "Boswel," and hiz frend, John Nichols, figerz az "Nichols, Nicols, Nichol," and "Nicol."

From Salonica.

"It iz needles for me tu tel eu hou much I regret that this grait werld Wor haz rezulted in a kompulsori saiving ov the 'litel' that is spent in edeukaiting the yung ov the metropolis. I understand that meni Komitiz ar nou siting with the eksprest intenshon ov introdeusing, or trying tu introdeus, neu methodz when pees haz been deklaird. Az a praktikal teecher ov meni yeerz, I hav kontended that wun ov the grait obstakelz in the rœd woz the speling difikulti. Again and again I hav nœtist, espeshali in the lœer standerdz, that children hoo pend thair thauts ekprest themselvz fonetikali. . . . I wood sujest that the vairius Komitiz nou siting shood konsider the advyzabiliti ov introdeusing fonetik speling, and so saiv meni, meni valeuabel ourz ov skool lyf spent on teeching korekt formz az we nœ them, ofen rezulting in hart pangz, and in meni kaisez uter despair, for the chyld."—From a leter sent by "R.A.M.C." tu the "London Teacher."

Forthkuming Lekteurz.

Janeuari 13.—Exeter, University College, Day Training Department.
,, 19.—Wallasey, District Teachers' Association (N.U.T.).
,, 20.—Crewe, Cheshire County Training College.
Febrooari 7.—Warrington, Training College.
,, 8.—Leeds, University Training College.
,, 17.—Bristol, University, Elementary Training Department.
March 5.—Blackpool, Co-operative Society.
,, 14.—Darlington, Co-operative Society.
,, 15.—Darlington, Training College.

Memberz dezyring ferther partikeularz az tu the our and plais ov eni ov theez lekteurz shood aply tu the Sekretari, S.S.S., 44 Great Russell Street.

Neu Memberz.

Aneual Memberz.

The Rev. G. C. Pearson, 25 South Road, Saffron Walden, Essex.
Kaptain J. N. Griffiths, c.o. Miss Fanner, 47B Welbeck Street, W.
Mrs. Georgina Elliott, 36 Jubilee Terrace, Bedlington Station.
Mrs. C. Pearson, 82 Elwick Road, West Hartlepool.
Walter Scott, 32 Jacoba Street, Johannesburg, South Africa.
Skurr, 4 Plantagenet Avenue, Chester-le-Street.
Misez Sybil G. Atkinson, 10 Fairholme Road, West Kensington, W.
Hilda M. Auton, Warwick House, Birtley, Durham.
Ethel C. Bailey, Boys' Council School, Fatfield, County Durham.
Alice A. Caine, 10 Granville Street, Monton, Eccles, Lancashire.
M. R. Cunningham, Girls' Council School, Fatfield, Co. Durham.
Margaret W. Dunean, Municipal High School, West Hartlepool.
Edith M. Ernshaw, Hawarten House, Surrey Street, Glossop, Derbyshire.
Janet B. Hamilton, 149 North Street, Glasgow.
Ethel Heyes, 260 Worsley Road, Swinton, Manchester.
Janet Heyes, 260 Worsley Road, Swinton, Manchester.
F. Hunter, 107 Wolmarans Street, Johannesburg, South Africa.
R. Joss, 111 Plymouth Grove, Chorlton-on-Medlock, Manchester.
McKenzie, 399 Commissioner Street, Johannesburg, South Africa.
M. L. Parry, 1 Wesley Street, Levenshulme, Manchester.
C. M. Sandall, 45 Stockton Road, West Hartlepool, Durham.
E. M. Shacklock, 64 Frobisher Road, Hornsey, N.
S. Tait, 2 Alexander Street, Pelton S.O., County Durham.
E. Tatton, L.L.A., Brougham Junior School, West Hartlepool.
Eva Waller, 260 Worsley Road, Swinton, Manchester.
Mesrz. William Anderson, 120 Commissioner Street, Johannesburg, South Africa.
John Ball, 78 Mitchell Street, Berea, Johannesburg, South Africa.
J. C. Emslie, Corner of Green and Market Streets, Johannesburg, South Africa.
William P. Ewing, 14 Brighton Avenue, Burnage, Manchester.
William Fraser, 158 King's Park Road, Cathcart, Glasgow.
Harry Frost, 34 Sharp Street, Bellevue, Johannesburg, South Africa.
Edward M. Gibson, Bank of Liverpool, Ltd., Bedlington, Northumberland.
William C. Goodley, Brentwood, Church Road, Low Fell, Gateshead.
J. W. Gordon, P.O. Box 1004, Johannesburg, South Africa.
Arthur Charles Gronno, Burgess Street Council School, Manchester.
William Hakin, 18 Wood Street, Pelton S.O., Newcastle-on-Tyne.
James Halley, 107 Wolmarans Street, Johannesburg, South Africa.
T. E. Hibbert, 7 Swayfield Avenue, Longsight, Manchester.
William Hinde, 19 St. Ambrose Grove, Anfield, Liverpool.
John Lord, 16 Alphonsus Street, Brooks's Bar, Manchester.
Peter Macfarlane, 347 Langside Road, Glasgow.
Alex. Matson, Stella House, Bedlington, Northumberland.
E. C. Mawbey, Standard Bank of South Africa, Ltd., P.O. Box 1031, Johannesburg, Transvaal.
E. Moss, 57 Quartz Street, Johannesburg, South Africa.
J. Patterson, 39 Station Road, Birtley.
W. J. Reddrop, 64 Loveday Street, Johannesburg, South Africa.
I. Shaer, Southall Street School, Manchester.
W. Skurr, 4 Plantagenet Avenue, Chester-le-Street.
William Tait, 7 Yettah Street, Hillbrow, Johannesburg, South Africa.
C. J. Watson, 14 Bottville Road, Acock's Green, Birmingham.

South Indian Braanch.

T. K. Gopala Rao, B.A., L.T., B.E.M. High School, Mangalore, South India.

PRES KUTINGZ.

September, Oktœber, and November.

LETERZ STRONGLI SUPORTING SPELING REFORM wer obzervd in : **Ardrossan and Saltcoats Herald** (3 leterz), **Birkenhead Advertiser** (2 leterz), **Daily Graphic, Dundee Advertiser** (2 leterz), **Guardian** (3 leterz), **London Teacher, Newcastle Daily Journal** (2 leterz), **Oxford Times, Schoolmaster** (2 leterz), **Western Morning News** (8 leterz), **Yorkshire Post.**

SPESHAL ARTIKELZ ERJING SPELING REFORM wer printed in : **Ardrossan and Saltcoats Herald, Educational Review (India), Hindustan Review, Kirkcudbrightshire Advertiser, Monthly Record** (ofishal jernal ov the Manchester Chaimber ov Komers), **Oregon Teachers' Monthly, South Indian Mail.**

PROMINENT REFERENSEZ TU SPELING REFORM wer nœted in : **Essex County Standard, Harbor Grace Standard,** and **Conception Bay Advertiser** (Newfoundland).

ARTIKELZ AND LETERZ refering tu Speech and Speling apeerd in : **Daily Chronicle** (2 leterz), **Daily Mail, Dundee Advertiser, Guardian** (15 leterz), **Journal of Education, London Teacher, Pall Mall Gazette, Saturday Review, Times Educational Supplement.**

NŒTISEZ ov Prof. Rippmann'z reesent lekteurz apeerd in : **Durham Chronicle, Northern Daily Mail, Pitman'z Journal** ; and Mr. A. W. Mason'z adres on Speling Reform woz reported in the **Leiston Observer.**

THE SEKOND EDISHON ov the *Ferst Reeder* woz mœst faivorabli reveud in the **Educational News,** and menshond in **Modern Language Teaching.**

THRE LETERZ ataking speling reform apeerd in **Western Morning News.**

EDITORIAL NŒT.

IT haz been desyded tu publish THE PYONEER kworterli until pees iz restord. The Editor'z adres iz 45 Ladbroke Grove, London, W.

THE PYONEER iz sent graitis tu aul Memberz ov the Simplifyd Speling Sosyeti. The aneual subskripshon for Asœshiait Memberz iz a minimum ov wun shiling, that for Aktiv Memberz a minimum ov fyv shilingz. Mor muni meenz mor pouer tu kari on the kampain.

Reederz ar erjd tu aply for leeflets seting forth the aimz ov the Sosyeti. Theez and aul uther informaishon wil be gladli sent by the Sekretari ov the Simplifyd Speling Sosyeti, 44 Great Russell Street, London, W.C.

Among your friends and acquaintances there are thinking people who care for

Efficiency and Economy in Education

YOU SHOULD ASK THEM

whether any of the following objections to a reform of the spelling have occurred to them :—

O 1. It would interfere with the growth of the language and obscure the derivation of words.

O 2. To give the same spelling to such words as *right, write,* and *rite* would lead to confusion.

O 3. A spelling according to the sounds assumes the existence of a standard speech, which we do not possess.

O 4. Language constantly changes, and a spelling in accordance with the sounds would be always changing, which would be intolerable.

O 5. The present spelling is beautiful, and any change would make it ugly.

YOU SHOULD ASK THEM

whether they have realized the following advantages that would result from the adoption of a rational spelling :—

A 1. Much of the child's brief education time would be saved.

A 2. Spelling would be taught in a reasonable way.

A 3. The teaching of our language and literature would be improved; other school subjects would also benefit.

A 4. The English language would spread rapidly throughout the Empire, and might become the language for universal intercourse.

YOU SHOULD ANSWER THEM

by using the arguments that by this time are doubtless familiar to you; or, if you prefer it, send a post card to the Assistant Secretary, S.S.S., 44 Great Russell Street, London, W.C., asking for one or all of the pamphlets in our Objections Series (O1—O5) and our Advantages Series (A1—A4), which deal briefly but convincingly with all the points that have been enumerated.

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